

AMHERST COLLEGE

Amherst, Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

March 8, 1954

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin

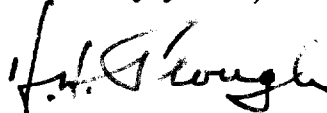
Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Since I returned from Washington last September, our group studying mutations and transductions in Salmonella has become still more active. The staff was working all the time I was away, but since my return we have been able to push the work more particularly into studies of the relation of this work to the bacteriophage. It will be no surprise to you that our present results correspond very closely with the account which you and Zinder gave of these phenomena two years ago. We find now that we shall certainly have to give up our view that we can induce multiple transductions. Our present data, which I hope to have a chance to discuss with you at some meeting before long, seem to me to be best interpreted by the view that the transfer of phage acts as a very potent mutagenic agent.

I am writing more particularly concerning another matter. Our investigational staff needs to be extended, and I am hoping next year that we can add a research associate who will have had some experience with these techniques either from your laboratory or from some similar institution. We do not at present have any openings on the teaching staff in the department, but there is always the possibility that something of that sort will develop.

I wonder if you have anyone or can suggest anyone who would be interested in a place in a small institution, where we have good equipment and excellent research stimulus, but, of course, somewhat less than the varied research facilities of a university. No teaching would be involved in this position. In general, the work would involve further studies in the genetics and related phenomena of Salmonella and other similar organisms. I would appreciate any suggestions you might be able to make.

Sincerely yours,



H. H. Plough

Professor of Biology

HHP:JK P.S. - I'm sending along our recent papers. Some were sent during my two year period in Washington except on request. We are just now writing a paper on the induction of mutations by phage transfer. - H.H.P.